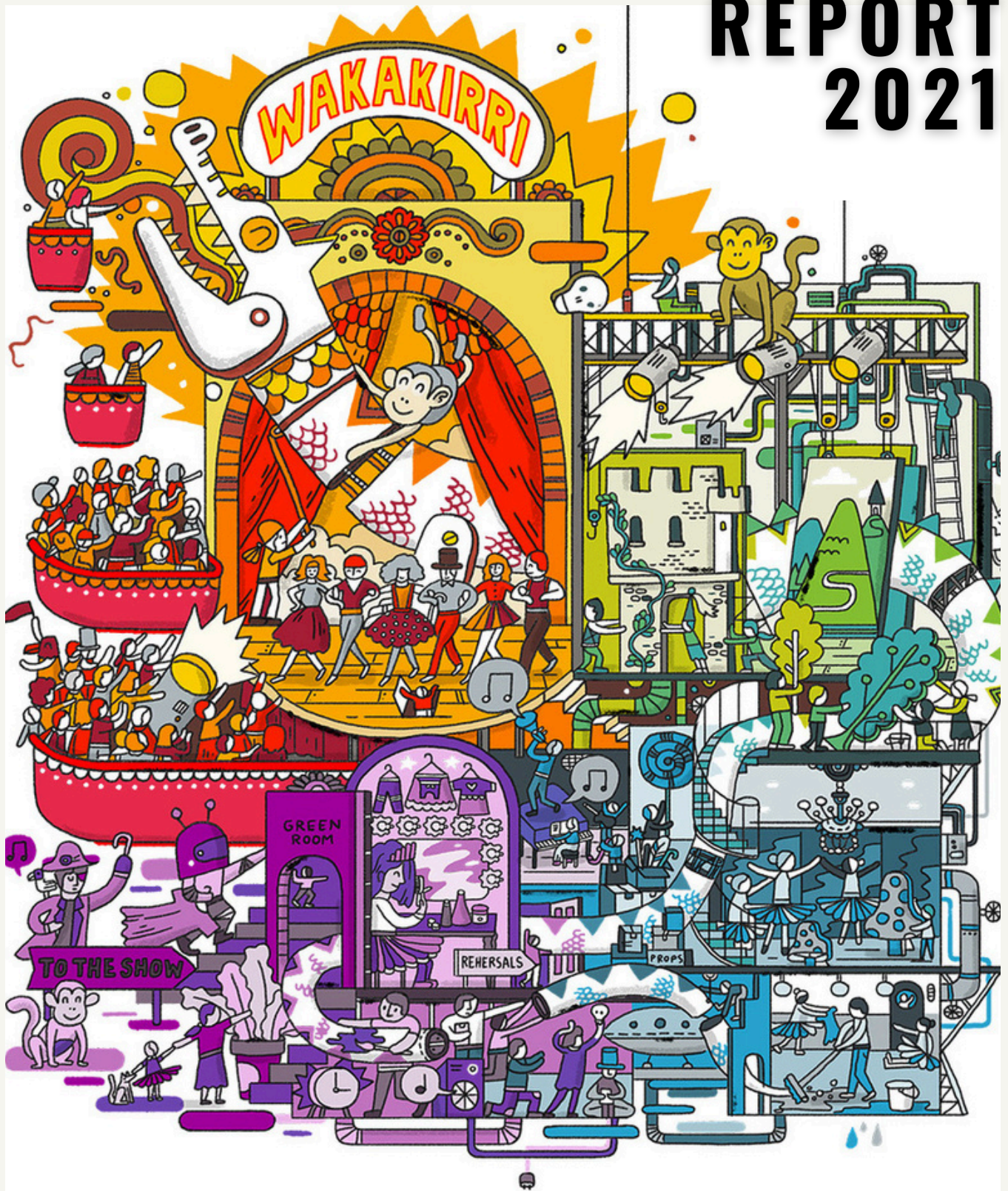


WAKAKIRRI

AUSTRALIA'S LARGEST PERFORMING ARTS EVENT FOR SCHOOLS

ANNUAL REPORT 2021



OUR FESTIVAL DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

2021 was a rollercoaster year for Wakakirri. We started the year with a Covid strategy and were forced to execute every aspect of it as the season unfolded. It was an exhausting process for the Wakakirri team and I am grateful for their dedication to seeing the season through.

Some notable outcomes from 2021 include:

- The extended lockdowns in NSW and Victoria forced the complete cancelation of all live events in those states. Although there were some cancelations in other States and Territories most live events were competed.
- Wakakirri is no longer a competition. This change has been coming for sometime but the difficult financial situation created by Covid-19 meant that if Wakakirri wanted to access major funding it needed to make the change.
- Wakakirri live streamed its live shows for the first time in 2021 creating access to new audiences.
- The Wakakirri Artist in Residence Program has been expanded due to increased demand and will includes an online version in 2022.
- Kristen Douglas, the national manager of Headspace schools has joined the Wakakirri team alongside Tom Calma as a Patron.



2021 DATES AND VENUES

NOTE: DATES MARKED IN RED INDICATE SHOWS CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19 LOCKDOWNS

ACT

Canberra Theatre

- 19th July
- 20th July
- 21st July

WA

Perth Concert Hall

- 4th August
- 5th August
- 6th September

SA

Adelaide Ent Centre

- 10th August
- 11th August
- 12th August

NSW

NIDA

- 26th July
- 27th July
- 13th September

Riverside Theatres

- 16th August
- 17th August
- 18th August
- 19th August
- 20th August

Shoalhaven Ent Centre

- 26th August

WIN Entertainment Centre

- 2nd September

Civic Theatre

- 29th July

Quaycentre

- 7th September
- 8th September

VICTORIA

Clocktower Centre

- 30th July
- 11th August
- 12th August
- 13th August

Frankston Arts Centre

- 17th August
- 18th August
- 19th August
- 20th August

Hamer Hall

- 6th September
- 7th September

QLD

Logan Ent Centre

- 23rd August
- 24th August
- 25th August
- 26th August

Logan Metro Sports Centre

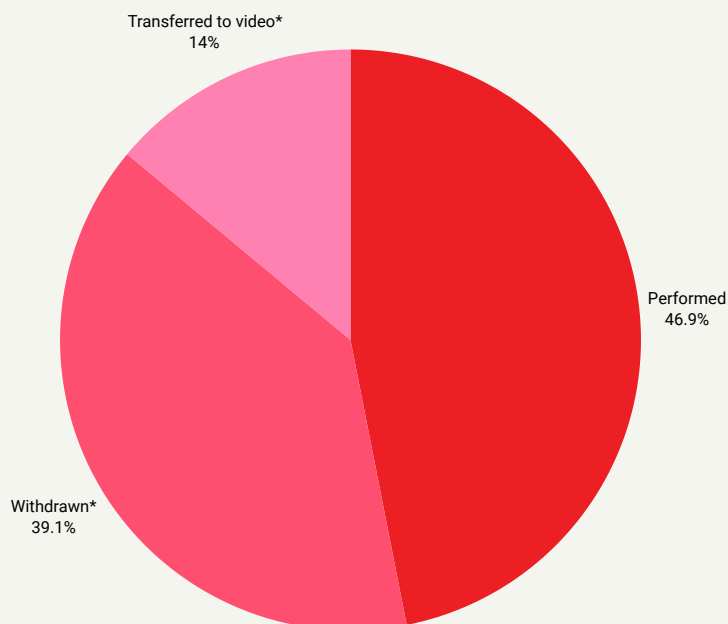
- 19th October
- 20th October

The Events Centre

- 30th July

Mackay Ent Centre

- 26th July



Pie Chart showing impact on 258 registrations due to Covid-19 lockdowns

WAKAKIRRI STORY-DANCE ASSOCIATION INC.

GREAT STORIES CAN OPEN HEARTS & MINDS & INSPIRE CHANGE

The Wakakirri Story-Dance Association Incorporated is a not-for-profit organisation (since 2004) that uses storytelling, the oldest form of learning, as it's focus for providing innovative educational programs to schools in a manner that resonates with contemporary youth culture.

STORYTELLING IS THE OLDEST FORM OF LEARNING.

'When stories are exchanged, tellers and interpreters share their differing understandings of events and experiences. This sharing can result in rich and deep alignments. Stories provide a road to empathy, understanding and acceptance because when we share stories we become characters in our own stories as well as those of others. Simultaneously, we come to deeper knowledge of content, of others and of ourselves' (Lowe, 2002, p. 75).

ASSOCIATION AIMS

The Wakakirri Association presents the Wakakirri Challenge to provide an education program for schools that develops student engagement and wellbeing through the sharing of stories and participation in the performing arts.

COMMITTEE

The WSDAI Committee is governed by individuals from business, the arts and education sectors. As an incorporated association, the WSDAI produces an annual report and is publicly accountable.

WAKAKIRRI PATRON

In the opinion of Professor Tom Calma AO "Wakakirri develops our young kids to be the leaders of the future." Alongside his role at Wakakirri, Professor Calma is also the Co-Chair of Reconciliation Australia.

WHAT DOES WAKAKIRRI MEAN?

The Aboriginal word Wakakirri means 'to dance a story' according to the Wangaaypuwan people from Cobar NSW. It was chosen to give the event a distinctly Australian feel.

WAKAKIRRI STORY-DANCE ASSOCIATION INC.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS



**ADAM
LOXLEY**
FESTIVAL
DIRECTOR



**DARREN
TASKER**
BUSINESS
CONSULTANT



GERRY GILCHRIST

ACCOUNTANT



**VALERIE
HARROLD**
TEACHER



**MATTHEW
SAMUEL**
MARKETING
CONSULTANT



**PROFESSOR
TOM CALMA AO**
WAKAKIRRI PATRON



**KRISTEN
DOUGLAS**
WAKAKIRRI PATRON

WAKAKIRRI ANNUAL PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

WAKAKIRRI STORY-DANCE FESTIVAL

The Wakakirri Story-Dance Festival is a national program for schools that develops student engagement and wellbeing through participation in the performing arts.

Schools participate by creating Story-Dances which they perform in live theatres in capital cities and selected regional areas around Australia. Schools in remote and regional areas can participate via Wakakirri Video.

NATIONAL TV SPECIAL

At the end of the live and video seasons a TV special is broadcast via the Wakakirri website and social media channels that showcases outstanding works from the year

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE PROGRAM

The Wakakirri Artist in Residence provides assistance to schools that do not have the resources or skills to participate in Wakakirri. Combined with online dance classes the AIR program can also be used by schools in remote areas.

WAKAKIRRI INSPIRATION FUND

The Wakakirri Inspiration Fund directly assists disadvantaged schools by covering the cost of participation fees or an artist in residence program.

CAREER PATHWAYS PROGRAM

Via Wakakirri, secondary students have the option to explore career pathways in performing and creative arts, design, and event management. Participating students have access to industry professional mentors, careers day seminars and the option of completing a Certificate 2 in Dance.



2021 SIGNATURE THEME MOTIF 'MONKEY'

NATIONAL AWARD WINNING



EXCELLENCE IN PERFORMING ARTS EDUCATION AWARD



Wakakirri was recognised by the Australian Performing Arts Teachers Association for our contribution to performing arts education in schools at a special presentation held at the National Institute of Dramatic Art (NIDA) in Sydney this May 2021.

The 'Excellence in Performing Arts Education Award' recognises an outstanding organisation working in performing arts education, providing programs that significantly contribute towards student engagement and participation; developing a love for performance and an understanding of the broader creative process.



PARTICIPATION RATES

LIVE SCHOOLS

2021	P	S	D	TOTAL
ACT	8	2	0	10
NSW	0	0	0	0
NT	0	0	0	0
QLD	21	1	0	22
SA	28	1	0	29
TAS	0	0	0	0
VIC	0	0	0	0
WA	10	2	0	12
TOTAL	67	6	0	73

2020	P	S	D	TOTAL
ACT	0	0	0	0
NSW	0	0	0	0
NT	0	0	0	0
QLD	0	0	0	0
SA	0	0	0	0
TAS	0	0	0	0
VIC	0	0	0	0
WA	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0	0

2019	P	S	D	TOTAL
ACT	15	0	0	15
NSW	74	17	0	91
NT	0	0	0	0
QLD	42	3	0	45
SA	35	3	0	38
TAS	0	0	0	0
VIC	46	19	6	65
WA	18	2	0	20
TOTAL	230	44	6	280

VIDEO SCHOOLS

2021	P	S	D	TOTAL
ACT	0	0	0	0
NSW	9	3	0	12
NT	0	0	0	0
QLD	5	3	0	8
SA	1	0	0	1
TAS	2	0	0	2
VIC	11	8	4	23
WA	2	0	0	2
TOTAL	30	14	4	48

2020	P	S	D	TOTAL
ACT	2	1	0	3
NSW	5	5	0	10
NT	0	0	0	0
QLD	9	0	0	9
SA	12	0	0	12
TAS	2	2	0	4
VIC	3	2	4	9
WA	1	1	0	2
TOTAL	34	11	4	49

2019	P	S	D	TOTAL
ACT	0	0	0	0
NSW	0	0	0	1
NT	1	0	0	0
QLD	1	0	0	1
SA	3	0	0	3
TAS	3	3	0	6
VIC	1	0	0	1
WA	3	0	0	3
TOTAL	12	3	0	15

STUDENTS

2021	P	S	D	TOTAL
ACT	537	44	0	581
NSW	444	155	0	599
NT	0	0	0	0
QLD	1406	129	0	1535
SA	1539	30	0	1569
TAS	320	0	60	380
VIC	815	359	0	1174
WA	671	40	0	711
TOTAL	5732	757	60	6549

2020	P	S	D	TOTAL
ACT	109	56	0	165
NSW	319	110	0	429
NT	0	0	0	0
QLD	396	55	0	451
SA	722	0	0	722
TAS	80	33	0	113
VIC	160	54	32	246
WA	35	11	0	46
TOTAL	1821	319	32	2172

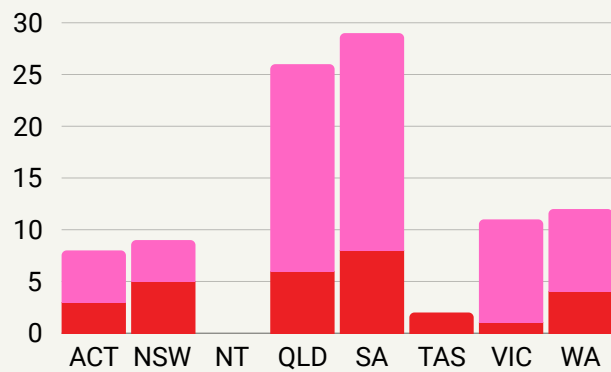
2019	P	S	D	TOTAL
ACT	769	0	0	769
NSW	5255	903	0	6158
NT	0	0	0	0
QLD	2571	123	0	2694
SA	2243	55	0	2298
TAS	365	36	0	401
VIC	2609	749	138	3496
WA	1157	39	0	1196
TOTAL	14969	1905	138	17012

PARTICIPATION STATISTICS

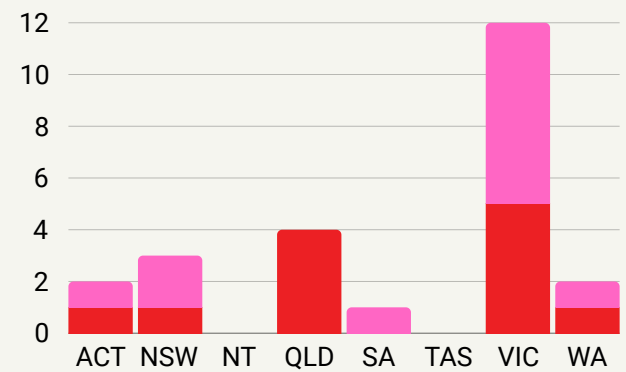
PUBLIC SCHOOLS VERSUS PRIVATE SCHOOLS



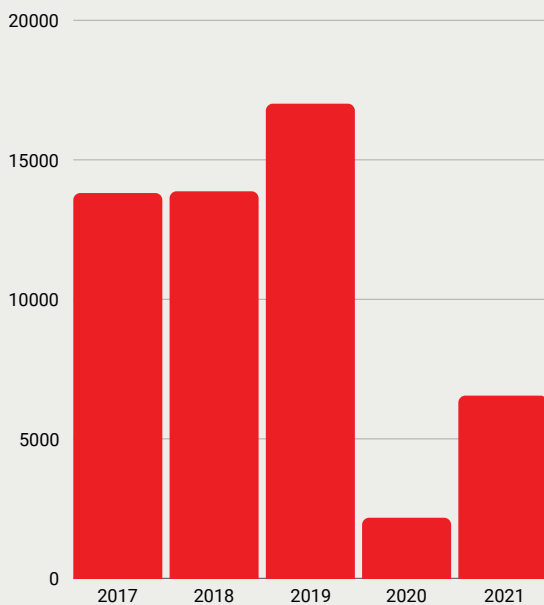
PRIMARY



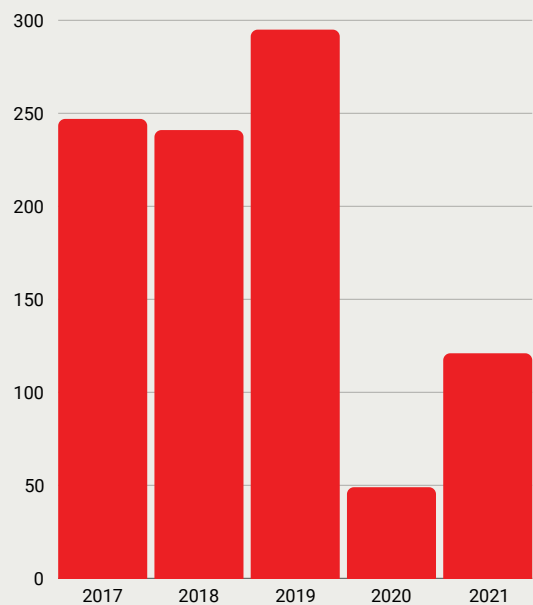
SECONDARY



TOTAL # STUDENTS BY YEAR

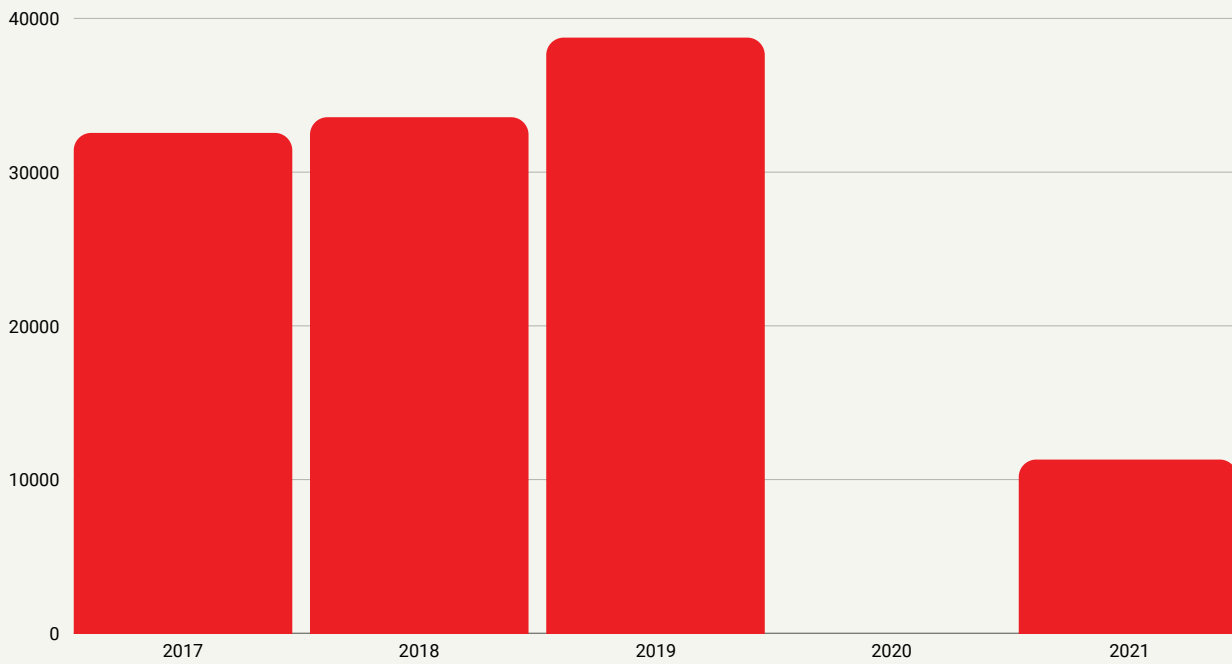


TOTAL # SCHOOLS BY YEAR

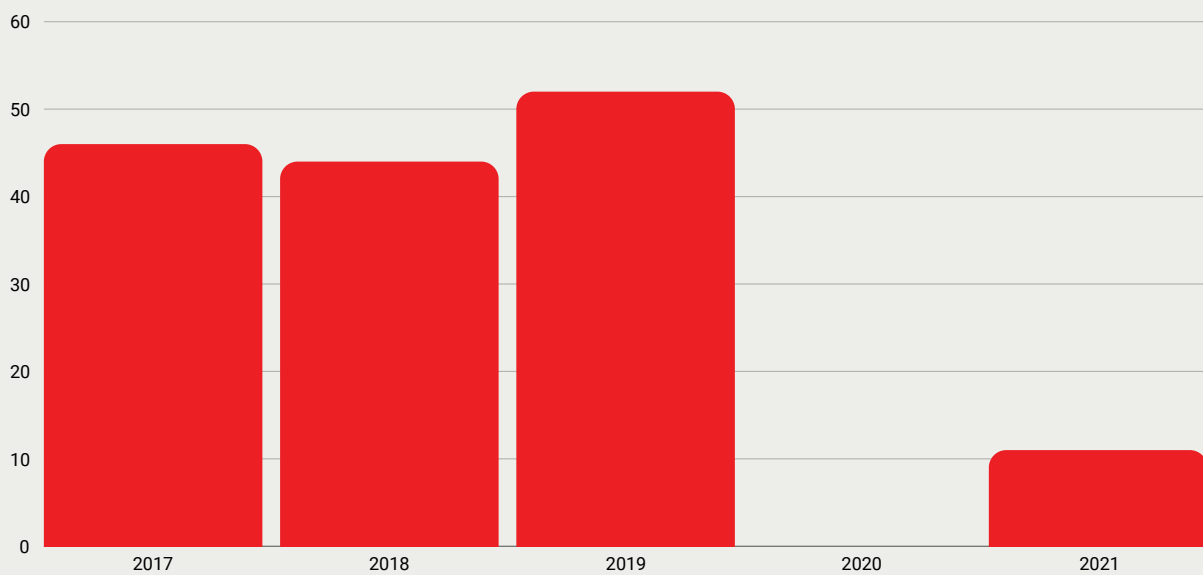


SHOW STATISTICS

AUDIENCE MEMBERS



LIVE SHOWS



WAKAKIRRI PARTNERS AND SPONSORS

MAJOR PARTNERS



SUPPORTING PARTNERS



MEDIA PARTNERS

- DANCETRAIN MAGAZINE
- EDUCATION TODAY

DANCE PARTNERS

- FOOTSTEPS DANCE COMPANY
- JASON COLEMAN'S MINISTRY OF DANCE

PRIZE PARTNERS

- BIOME ECO STORES
- ENHANCE TV
- SCHOOLYARD STORIES
- SENHEISER
- COSTUMES WITHOUT DRAMA
- STUDIO 7 DANCEWEAR
- PAN MACMILLAN

WAKAKIRRI AMBASSADORS



**ANDREW
MCFARLANE**



**EMMA
WATKINS**



**KAT
HOYOS**



**JUSTINE
CLARKE**



**JASON
COLEMAN**



**TODD
MCKENNEY**



**WILL
TRAN**



**JAMES
ELMER**



**MICHALA
BANAS**

A FEW BEST STORIES FEATURED IN THE SEASON SPECIAL



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, NSW REACH OUT

Reaching Out to those in need is part of the Aussie way. Whether it's bushfires, including those who are left out, or helping the less fortunate...we need to stick together in tough times.

**"A STUNNING PERFORMANCE
THAT HAS BREATH TAKING
MOMENTS!"**

MELBA COPLAND SECONDARY SCHOOL, ACT

LOVE, WAR, AND LOSS

Girl falls in love with soldier who is called to war. Girl farewells soldier and prays he'll come home. Soldier does not come back from war and girl struggles with her loss.

**"AN ARTISTIC PIECE THAT IS
MESMERISING AND
CAPTIVATED THE AUDIENCE."**



A FEW BEST STORIES FEATURED IN THE SEASON SPECIAL



KAREN FELDMAN'S DANCE SCHOOL, VIC MELBOURNE, THE MOST LIVABLE CITY

It could happen to you or me. The most vulnerable among us deserve our empathy, compassion, and advocacy. Join us, as we take to the streets to dissolve the negative stigmas surrounding homelessness.

**"TAKES THE VIEWER DEEP
INTO A PHYSICAL 'RESPONSE'
TO CURRENT SOCIO-
ECONOMIC ISSUES"**

HELENA COLLEGE, WA REEF RESCUE

Coral reefs are home to marine life and fundamental to our own survival. Coral bleaching is caused by increased ocean temperatures due to burning fossil fuels. We can prevent it by creating cleaner energy sources.

**"I WAS ENGAGED FROM
BEGINNING TO END.
FANTASTIC WORK!"**



WAKAKIRRI FESTIVAL AWARDS RECIPIENTS

RAISING AWARENESS STORY AWARD



**VALKSTONE PRIMARY
SCHOOL, VIC**

Primary video entry

From the Limited to the
Land of Opportunity

RECONCILIATION STORY AWARD



**WEIR STATE SCHOOL,
QLD**

Primary video entry

Gabul Wudhabagu (Carpet
Snake Journey)

SUSTAINABILITY STORY AWARD



**ENOGGERA STATE SCHOOL,
QLD**

Primary live entry

Renew, Reuse, Relove



**TRINITY COLLEGE
WA**

Secondary live entry

Removing the Mask



**PRESCOTT COLLEGE
SOUTHERN, SA**

Primary live entry

Uluru United

INSPIRATION FUND

FUNDS RAISED BY YEAR

The Wakakirri Inspiration Fund raises funds to help schools in disadvantaged communities to participate in Wakakirri. Any school can apply for funds, they simply need their Principal to complete the below form outlining their request. Schools can apply for funding each year which can be spent on subsidising Wakakirri student participation fees.

Wakakirri is a registered charity. Funds are raised in the following ways;

- Asking for donations from the audience at live shows
- Donations via the Wakakirri website
- Applying for grants from funds and trusts
- Applying for sponsorship from corporations

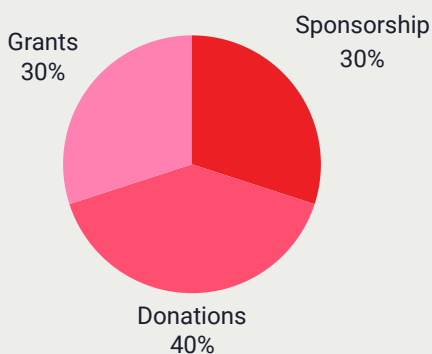
All funds raised go directly to participating schools.

TOTAL INSPIRATION FUNDS ALLOCATED IN 2021 \$24,630

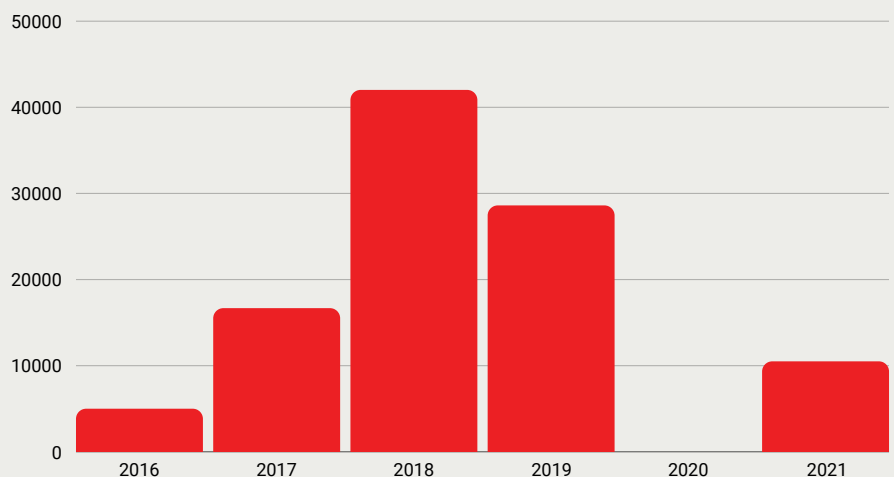
BENEFITING SCHOOLS 2021

- Bayswater Primary School x \$1050
- Blacktown Girls High School x \$525
- Bullsbrook College x \$525
- Chifley College x \$1050
- Christies Beach High School x \$1050
- Curran Public School x \$1400
- Emerson School x \$525
- Hallam Senior Secondary College X \$2200
- Horizons Dance Company x \$175
- Horsley Park Public School x \$280
- John Warby Public School x \$1750
- Kangaroo Flat Primary School x \$1400
- Karen Feldman's Dance School x \$350
- Kingswood High School x \$1400
- Lyndale Greens Primary School x \$1050
- Moreton Downs State School x \$1400
- Nowra East Public School x \$1400
- Para Hills West Primary School x \$1050
- Queanbeyan West Public School x \$1050
- Sacred Heart Primary School x \$2200
- Sacred Heart Schoolx \$1400
- St John's School \$2200
- Staines Memorial College x \$525
- Swansea Public School x \$1400
- Tarro Public School x \$1400
- Tuggerah Public School x \$1050

DONATION BREAKDOWN



FUNDS RAISED BY YEAR

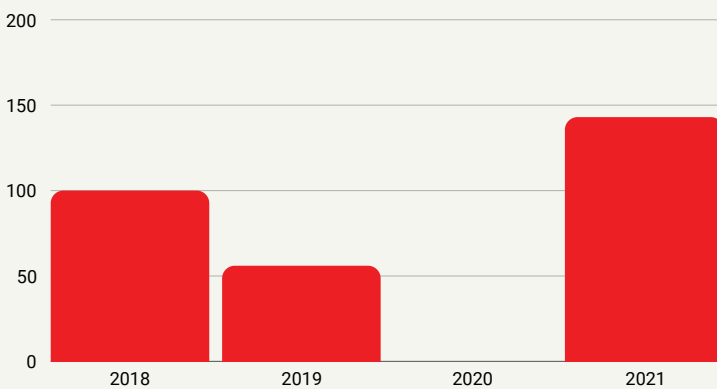


CAREER PATHWAY PROGRAM

FREE WAKAKIRRI CAREER DAY SEMINAR

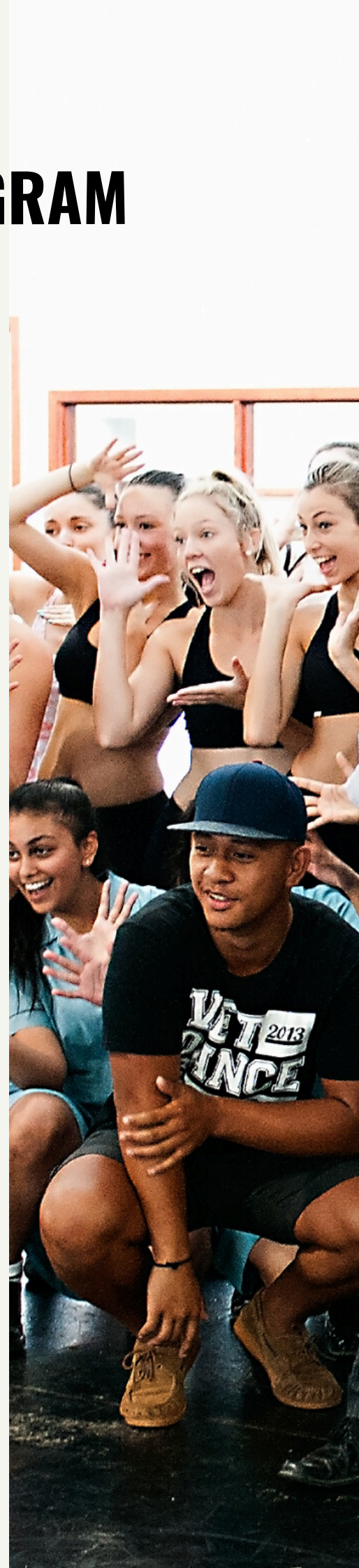
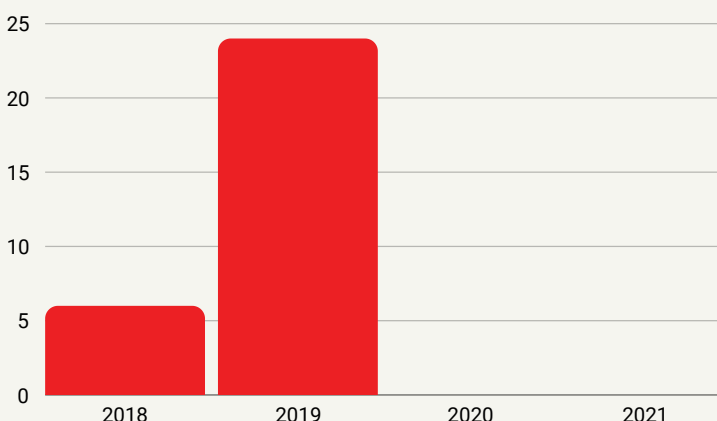
All Secondary School students are invited to attend this significant FREE Wakakirri Career Day event hosted online.

This event was held on 12 May from 1 PM to 3 PM [AEST] and consisted of one 45 minute session with our two keynote speakers (KAY HOYOS & STEPHEN MAHY), a student Q+A session, and a workshop consisting of the modules What Is a Story-Dance and Finessing Your Story-Dance



CERT 2 IN DANCE

Wakakirri is an opportunity for Secondary students to explore career pathways in Performing and Creative Arts, Design, and Event Management. Secondary Students participating in Wakakirri can also earn a Certificate 2 in Dance.



ARTIST IN RESIDENCE PROGRAM

NEED A PERFORMING ARTS TEACHER? WE HAVE ONE FOR YOU!

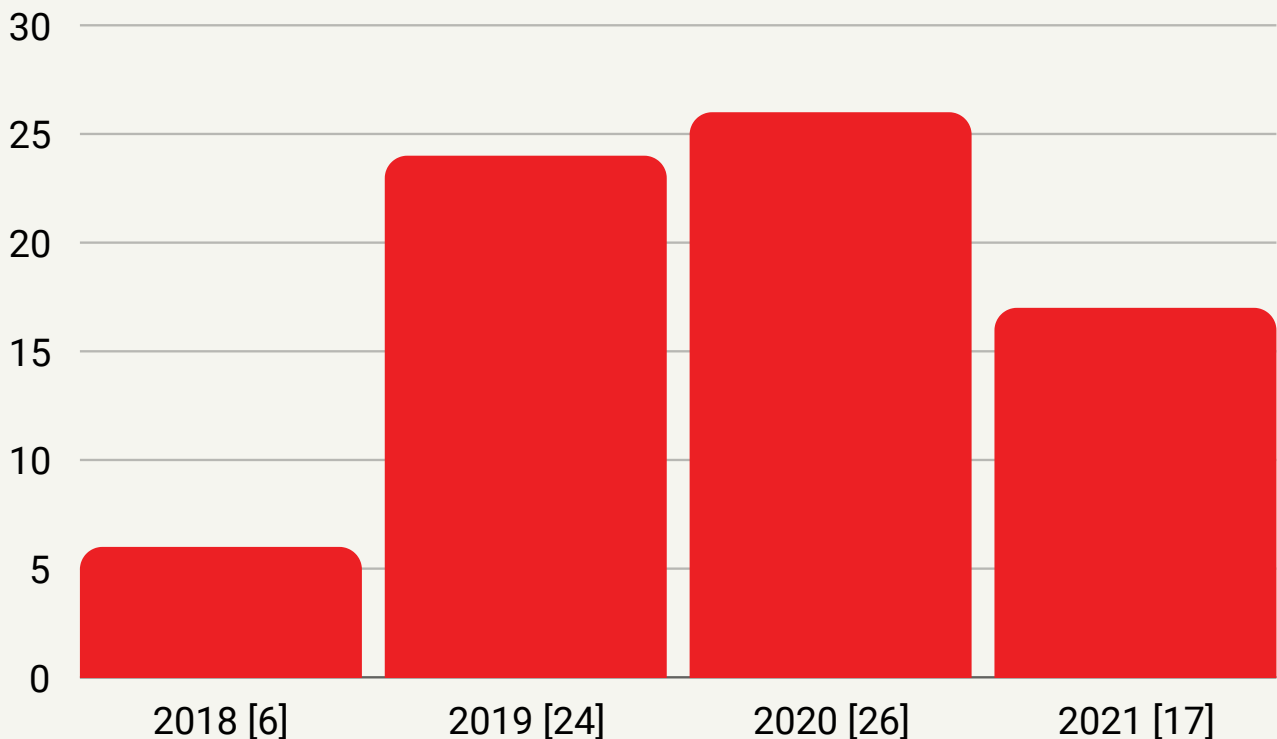
Wakakirri can provide qualified Performing Arts Facilitators that can come to your school and do most of the heavy lifting needed to create a story-dance performance. Teachers can still be involved in the process but without the pressure of being in charge! Wakakirri's Artist in Residence Programs can be used for Wakakirri Live or Wakakirri Video events

PROGRAM COSTS

\$2200 FOR 12 WEEK PROGRAM WITH 50 STUDENTS



RIGISTRATION HISTORY

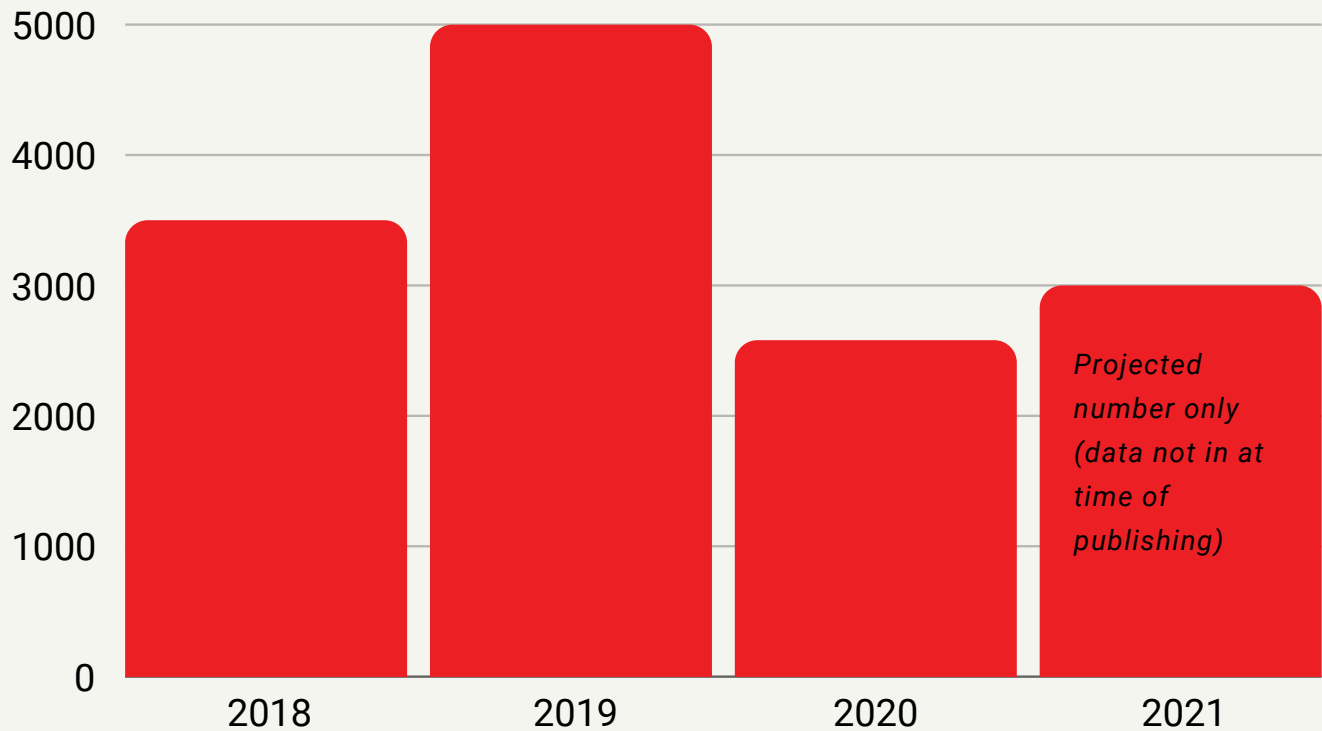


NATIONAL TV SPECIAL

At the end of the live and video seasons at TV special is broadcast via the Wakakirri website and social media channels that showcases outstanding works from the year

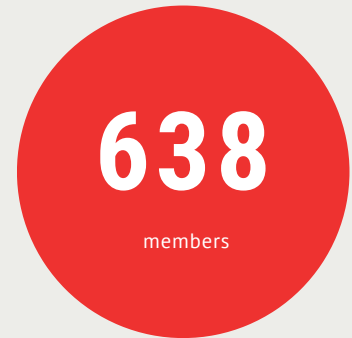
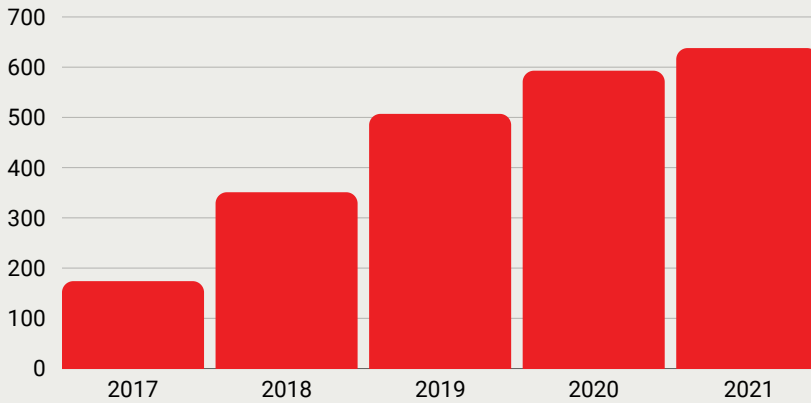


VIEWS

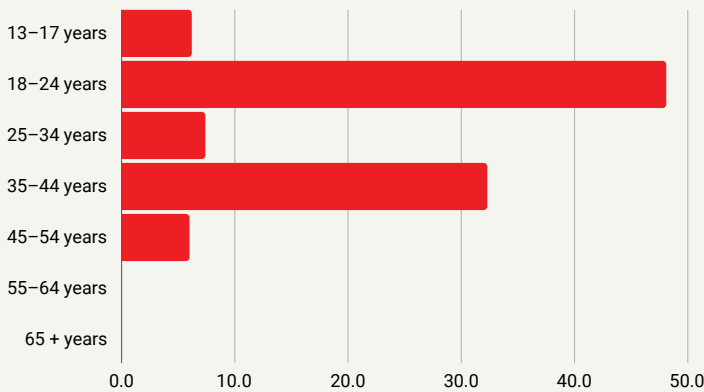


SOCIAL MEDIA

TEACHERS FACEBOOK GROUP



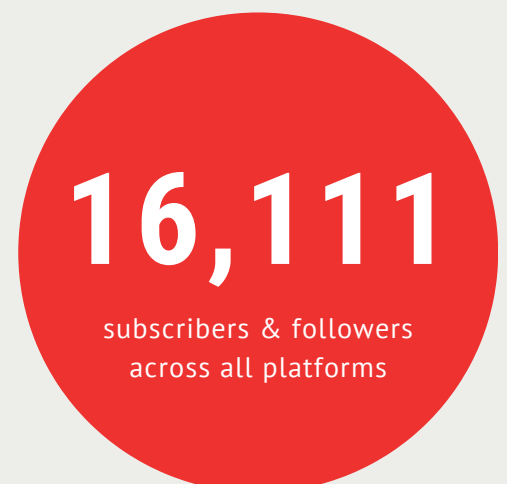
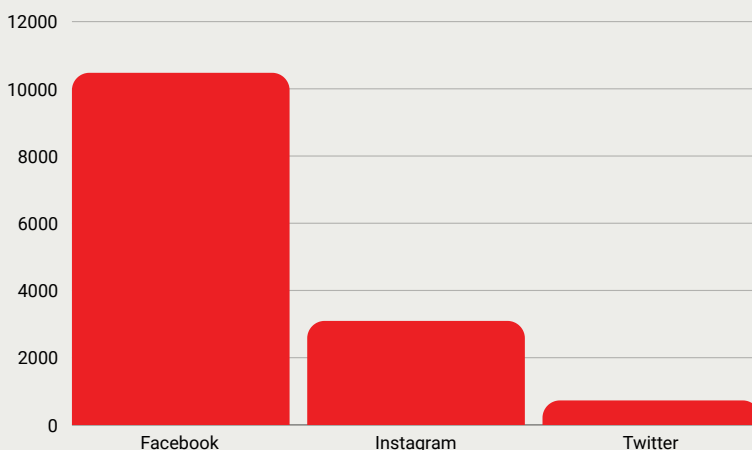
YOUTUBE CHANNEL VIEWER AGES



YOUTUBE CHANNEL STATISTICS



FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM & TWITTER



SOCIAL MEDIA

TOP POSTS

Wakakirri
Published by Wakakirri HQ · October 15

Chookas to our QLD Brisbane schools in performing next week on Monday and Tuesday. And what better way to officially end the 2021 live season than having the talented **Rachael Ward** as host and the spectacular **James Lee** as our Wakakirri Ambassador!

Don't forget the shows will be live streamed, so grab the link here: [https://www.wakakirri.com/live-streaming/...](https://www.wakakirri.com/live-streaming/) See more



5,568 People reached **406** Engagements **-** Distribution score


Boost post

12 10 Shares

Wakakirri is with **Chapel Hill State School** and **2 others**.
Published by Instagram · October 25 at 2:33 PM · Instagram

Congrats to night two schools who performed at Logan Metro Sports Centre QLD last week. Our very last show for the 2021 live season. Fantastic efforts by all! 🥳🥳🥳

(Order of photos) Mango Hill State School, Chapel Hill State School, Coomera Rivers State School, Cleveland State School, Mayfield State School, Pimpama State School, Sacred Heart School



3,192 People reached **586** Engagements

Boost post

24 5 Comments 3 Shares

Wakakirri
Published by Wakakirri HQ · September 23

Wakakirri have made the difficult decision to cancel our 2021 NSW and VIC shows. We are deeply saddened to make this decision. We hope that NSW & VIC schools will continue with Wakakirri this year. All schools are encouraged to transfer their entries to Wakakirri Video. Wakakirri Video allows schools to submit a Story-Dance for feedback and judging from Wakakirri's National Panel. This way, students can still experience Wakakirri, albeit digitally. You can see last year's Vi... See more



5,840 People reached **373** Engagements **-** Distribution score

wakakirriofficial

wakakirriofficial You're all stars! 🌟 Well done to the schools who participated in our second night of shows at the @canberratheatrecentre. The shows that took place this week represented a significant first for Wakakirri, our first-ever LIVESTREAMED shows. Whether you were watching from your theatre seats or the sofa, it was an amazing show! (Picture: Chapman Primary School, @CanberraGirlsGrammar, @Da ramalanCollegeCanberra, Mother Theresa School, Melba Copland Secondary School, Panel: @wiltran90, Host: @cassiegrening)



View Insights

Liked by **tonykeebie** and **109 others**

JULY 23

Add a comment... Post



TOP VIDEO 6.9K VIEWS
WHITEFRIARS CATHOLIC SCHOOL
Through the Smoke, 2020 video entry



TOP LIVESTREAM 2665 PLAYBACKS
ADELAIDE ENT CENTRE 11TH AUGUST
372 peak concurrents

TESTIMONIALS

COMMENTS FROM THE 2021 EVALUATION SUVEY

"Extremely worthwhile - It is a journey that staff, parents and students are a part of. It teaches the students that working hard towards achieving a goal is important and rewarding."

"AMAZING! Definitely should do it"

"Wakakirri is a great experience for students, allowing them to experience something new, step outside the box and build of friendship and teamwork skills"



"OUTSTANDING! It was an incredible opportunity for students and the entire school community"

"FUN, ALL-INCLUSIVE, BROAD"

"A fantastic way to get students to shine. Many students would not get an opportunity like this to be on stage and to work with other students. It promotes cooperation and team work"

"Watching the students perform brought tears to my eyes."

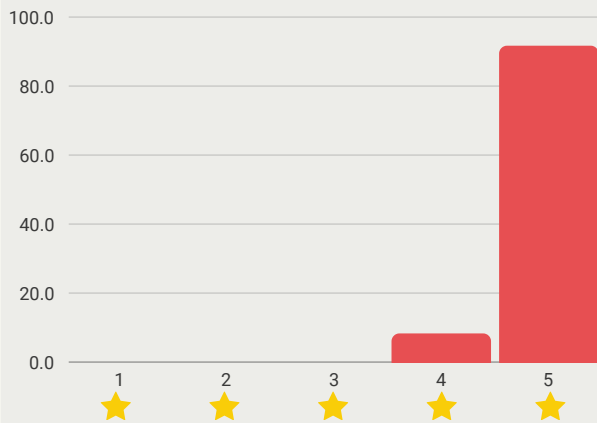
"An performance experience that provides students with a huge buzz and **ADRENALIN BODY EXPLOSION!**"

"The cancelation of Wakakirri Live impacted students' mental health and well-being. Students have felt isolated, lonely and missed out on an activity that usually brings them joy."

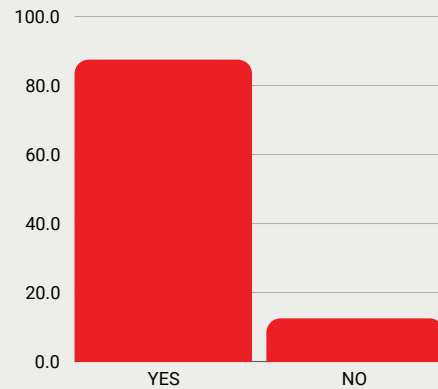


EVALUATION SURVEY

HOW MUCH DID THE STUDENTS ENJOY SHOW DAY?



DID PERFORMANCE DAY LIVE UP TO YOUR EXPECTATIONS?

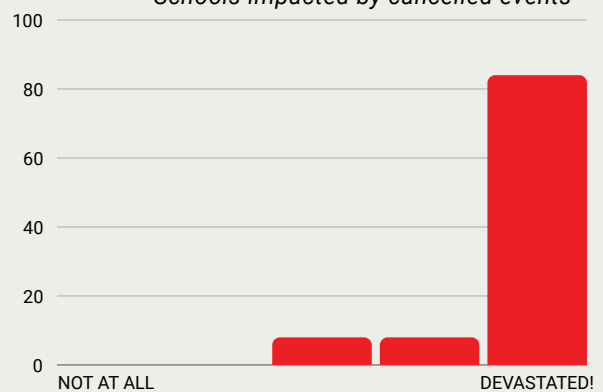


WOULD YOU PARTICIPATE IN WAKAKIRI AGAIN?



HOW DISAPPOINTED WERE STUDENTS MISSING OUT ON PERFORMING LIVE?*

**Schools impacted by cancelled events*



WHAT PLACE DOES WAKAKIRRI HAVE AT YOUR SCHOOL?

